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NSC BRIEFING

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Prospects Dim for New Program of Resident General Lacoste

1. The New Resident General:

A. Arrival French Morocco 14 June newly appointed Resident

General Francis Lacoste opens new but difficult chapter

French-Moroccan relations.

B. Inherits bitter legacy of hate and distrust left by two

military predecessors.

C. His replacement General Guillaume 20 May is attempt by

Paris re-establish order and French-Moroccan co-operation

after 9 months' anti-French terrorism.

D. Lacoste able career diplomat: long, wide experience,

including Morocco. Served as number two man French

Residency 1947-1950 under Marshal Juin.

E. Lacoste staunch advocate French presence Morocco, but

believed personally to favor more moderate policy.

Intelligence reports indicate he intends policy "iron

hand in silken glove.

DOCUMENT NO. 23

NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☐

LI DECLASSIFIED

CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S (C) 1940

NEXT REVIEW DATE:

DATE 1-8-80

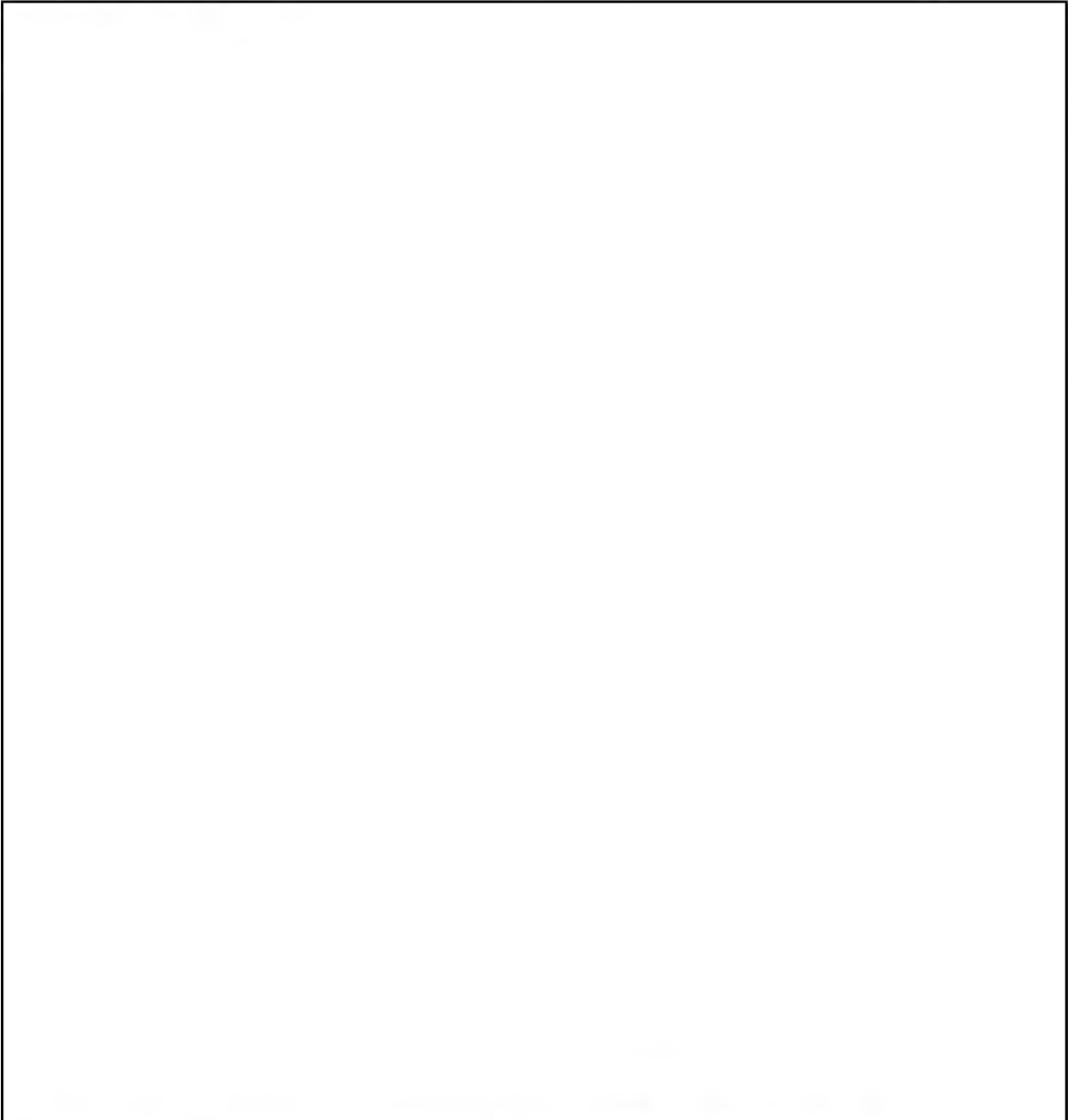
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II Lacoste's Program:



B. Lacoste recently conferred some elements Moroccan national-
ists he invited Paris. Also reportedly drafted proposal granting
clemency national-
ist political detainees.

III Prospects:

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B. Local reaction Lacoste program provokes bitter opposition

both sides:

- 1. French veterans organization Casablanca distributed 50,000 leaflets condemning Lacoste's alleged instructions to release and negotiate nationalists as "criminal and treasonable."**
- 2. On 12 June offices of veterans organization wrecked by bombs.**
- 3. El Glaoui, staunchly anti-nationalist Pasha Marrakech**

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- principal native engineer sultan's deposition -

states that friends of France in Morocco will give

Lacoste confidence if he does not bargain on

clemency.

4. nationalists are

implementing threat of crop burning, - burned 115

acres grain this past week.

C. American observers Morocco convinced drastic measures

required if situation to be restored; agree minimum

necessary --

1. Replacement sultan by someone acceptable Moroccan

people.

2. Release nationalist political prisoners, as no

others command respect Moroccan masses.

3. Direct contact with established nationalist leaders.

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